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## PLAGUE-PREVENTION WORK.

### DISTRIBUTION OF POISON.

In connection with the making and maintenance of a squirrel-free zone around the cities of California on San Francisco Bay, 1,437 acres of land in Alameda County were covered with poison during the week ended March 23, 1912.

During the same period 5,840 acres of land in San Joaquin County were covered with poison for the purpose of eradicating plague foci.

### RECORD OF PLAGUE INFECTION.

Places.	Date of last case of human plague.	Date of last case of rat plague.	Date of last case of squirrel plague.	Total number of rodents found infected since May, 1907.
California:				
Cities—				
San Francisco.....	Jan. 30, 1908.....	Oct. 23, 1908.....	None.....	398 rats.
Oakland.....	Aug. 9, 1911.....	Dec. 1, 1908.....	do.....	126 rats.
Berkeley.....	Aug. 27, 1907.....	None.....	do.....	None.
Los Angeles.....	Aug. 11, 1908.....	do.....	Aug. 21, 1908.....	1 squirrel.
Counties—				
Alameda (exclusive of Oakland and Berkeley).	Sept. 26, 1909.....	Wood rat, Oct. 17, 1909.	Oct. 9, 1911.....	114 squirrels and 1 wood rat.
Contra Costa.....	July 21, 1911.....	None.....	Sept. 23, 1911.....	364 squirrels.
Fresno.....	None.....	do.....	Oct. 27, 1911.....	1 squirrel.
Merced.....	do.....	do.....	July 13, 1911.....	5 squirrels.
Monterey.....	do.....	do.....	Aug. 6, 1911.....	5 squirrels.
San Benito.....	June 5, 1910.....	do.....	June 8, 1911.....	22 squirrels.
San Joaquin.....	Sept. 18, 1911.....	do.....	Aug. 26, 1911.....	18 squirrels.
San Luis Obispo.....	None.....	do.....	Jan. 29, 1910.....	1 squirrel.
Santa Clara.....	Aug. 23, 1910.....	do.....	Oct. 5, 1910.....	23 squirrels.
Santa Cruz.....	None.....	do.....	May 17, 1910.....	3 squirrels.
Stanislaus.....	do.....	do.....	June 2, 1911.....	13 squirrels.
Washington:				
City—				
Seattle.....	Oct. 30, 1907.....	Sept. 21, 1911.....	None.....	25 rats.

### RATS COLLECTED AND EXAMINED FOR PLAGUE INFECTION.

Places.	Week ended—	Found dead.	Total collected.	Examined.	Found infected.
California:					
Cities—					
Berkeley.....	Mar. 23, 1912	2	<sup>1</sup> 132	82	.....
Oakland.....	do.....	15	<sup>2</sup> 808	647	.....
San Francisco.....	do.....	19	<sup>3</sup> 1,725	1,309	.....
Washington:					
City—					
Seattle.....	do.....		1,036	982	.....

<sup>1</sup> Identified: *Mus norvegicus* 82, *Mus musculus* 48.

<sup>2</sup> Identified: *Mus norvegicus* 662, *Mus rattus* 1, *Mus musculus* 146, *Mus alexandrinus* 1.

<sup>3</sup> Identified: *Mus norvegicus* 861, *Mus rattus* 233, *Mus musculus* 418, *Mus alexandrinus* 213.

### SQUIRRELS COLLECTED AND EXAMINED FOR PLAGUE INFECTION.

During the same period 338 ground squirrels trapped or shot in Alameda County, Cal., were examined for plague infection. No plague-infected squirrel was found.